

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 07096 051306Z
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6303
INFO WHITEHOUSE WASH DC

S E C R E T CAIRO 07096

EXDIS (DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS)

WHITEHOUSE FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS EG US
SUBJECT: PROPOSED F-5 SALE TO EGYPT

REF: STATE 49658

1. IN MEETING WITH MINDEFENSE GENERAL GAMASY TODAY WE DISCUSSED PROPOSED F-5 SALE TO EGYPT. I BRIEFED HIM ON STATE OF PLAY VIS-A-VIS CONGRESS. GAMASY HAD BEEN BRIEFED BY AVM MUSSEIRY RE LATTER'S MEETING WITH VISITING DOD OFFICIAL VON MARBOD YESTERDAY AND WAS THEREFORE AWARE OF PROPOSED DELIVERY TIMES. PROPOSED FY 78 DELIVERIES WERE AGREEABLE TO HIM, BUT HE ASKED IF WE COULD GIVE SOME INDICATION OF WHEN THE 20 F-5S SCHEDULED FOR 1979 WILL BE DELIVERED. GAMASY UNDERSTANDS THAT ENTIRE F-5 DEAL DEPENDS UPON CONGRESSIONAL NON-OBJECTION, AND THAT LATTER PROCESS WILL NOT BE COMPLETED UNTIL EARLY MAY.

2. I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL GAMASY THAT OUR WORKING ASSUMPTION IS THAT F-5S FOR EGYPT WILL BE STANDARD WITH NORMAL CONFIGURATION OF F-5S SOLD GLOBALLY. TO BE SURE THERE WAS NO MISUNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THIS MEANT, I
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SPECIFICALLY SAID THEY WILL NOT BE CONFIGURED FOR MAVERICK, LGB, OR AERIAL REFUELING. GAMASY SAID THIS WAS AGREEABLE TO HIM. (THIS DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT WHEN SUBJECT IS DISCUSSED WITH EAF OFFICERS THEY WILL NOT MAKE A TRY TO GET SOME OF THESE THINGS, BUT GAMASY'S ACCEPTANCE OF OUR WORKING ASSUMPTION MAKES THIS A MANAGEABLE PROPOSITION.) THERE IS NO OBJECTION TO INFORMING THE CONGRESS THAT

GOE AND WE ARE IN AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. GAMASY REITERATED AVM RAYAN'S EARLIER COMMENT TO AIRA THAT THE AIRCRAFT BE EQUIPPED FOR LOW ALTITUDE NAVIGATION CAPABILITY. BASED ON AIRA'S COMMENT TO ME, I TOLD GAMASY IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THE F-5S ARE NORMALLY EQUIPPED WITH INERTIAL NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT FOR THIS PURPOSE. GAMASY SEEMED SATISFIED.

4. SINCE MY RETURN TO CHANCERY, DATT HAS INFORMED ME OF MG MCINERNEY TELEPHONE CALL OF EARLY THIS MORNING INDICATING USAF PLAN SEND TECHNICAL TEAM BEGINNING MARCH 15. ALTHOUGH I DID NOT DISCUSS THE DATE WITH GAMASY, WE DID TALK ABOUT THE FOLLOW-UP TECHNICAL TEAM THAT WOULD IN DUE COURSE BE DEPLOYED. HE ALSO KNEW ABOUT THE TEAM FROM MUSSEIRY AND SAID WE CAN DEPLOY IT AT ANY TIME WE WISH. EILTS

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